

- Children need frequent opportunities to talk about their experiences and ideas using words, phrases, and sentences



## Outcomes

- **Adults** will support children's efforts to communicate by providing them frequent opportunities to talk.
- **Adults** will engage children in conversation by:
  - **Commenting**
  - **Asking questions**
  - **Responding to children's comments or questions**

## Iowa Early Learning Standard

- **Children** understand and use communication and language for a variety of purposes.



## Benchmarks

- **Children** will initiate, listen, and respond appropriately in conversations with peers and adults.
- **Children** will ask and answer a variety of question types.
- **Children** will speak in sentences of increasing length and complexity.

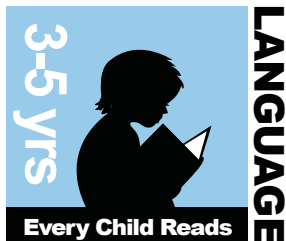
Listen for the **adult** to...

- Comment
- Ask questions
- Respond to the child



- MATCH children's level of understanding
- Be sure to GIVE children time to talk
- ENGAGE children in conversation





## **Match and Add to** Child's Level of Understanding

**If child  
uses  
2-3 word  
sentence**



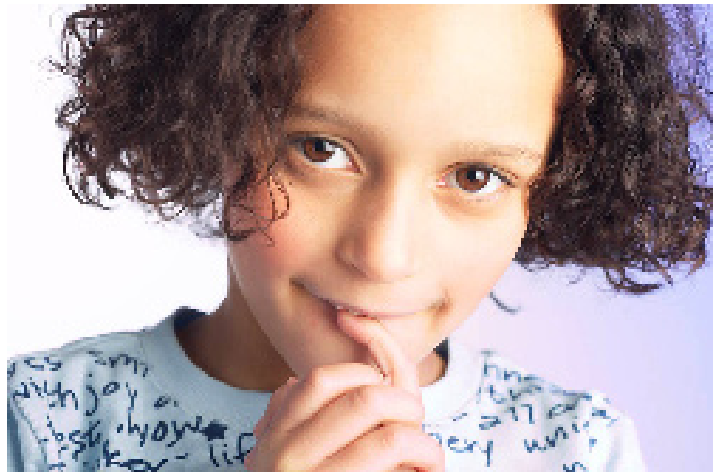
**Respond  
with  
3-5 word sentence**

**If child  
uses  
3-5 word  
sentence**



**Respond  
with  
5-7 word sentence  
or  
two sentences**

- Allow “thinking time”
- Wait at least 5 seconds for child’s response
- Allow ample “talking time”



- MATCH children's level of understanding
- Be sure to GIVE children time to talk
- ENGAGE children in conversation





## Strategies

- **Comment** or make statements
- **Ask** a question
- **Respond** and add new information to child's comment or question





C A R

- Describe a toy or other object child is playing with
- Describe something the child is doing
- Get engaged by 'pretending' with materials child is using



### ■ Yes/No

- Do you...
- Are you...

### ■ 'Wh--'

- Who, What  
When, Where

### ■ Open-ended

- Why?
- How?
- What would happen if...?



## Strategies

- **Comment** or make statements
- **Ask** a question
- **Respond** and add new information to child's comment or question



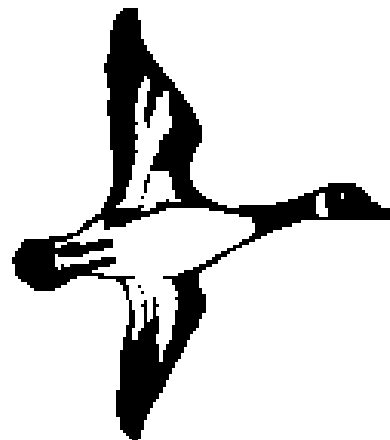
## Engage Children in Conversation

■ Before

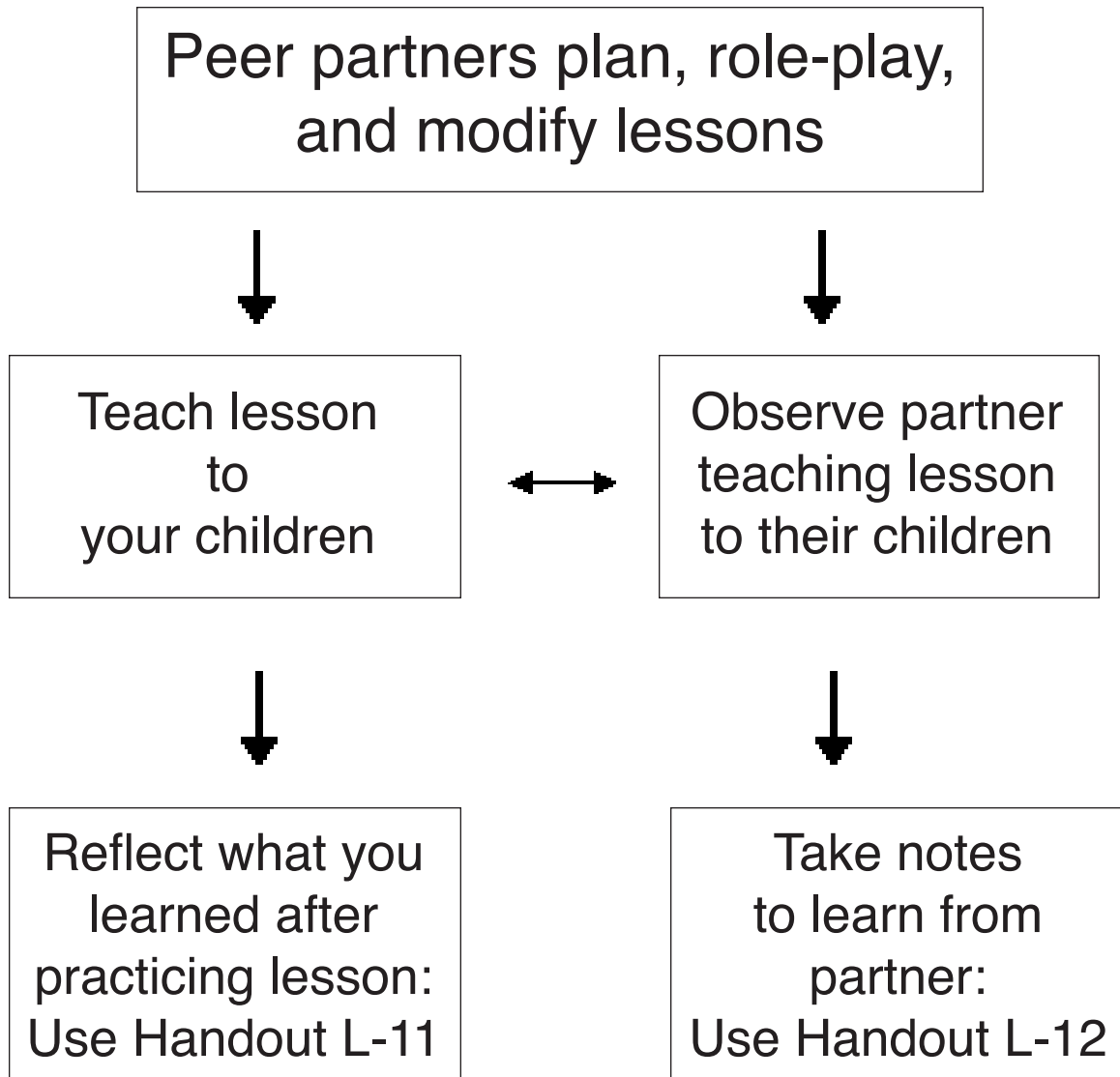
■ During

■ After

...an experience or activity



- STEP 1:** Talk to your partner about your planned experience.
- STEP 2:** Think up comments and questions to use before your planned experience.
- STEP 3:** Talk with your partner about how children might respond to your comments and questions.
- STEP 4:** Role-play. Practice using before activity comments and questions with partner. One person plays the adult; the other plays the child.
- STEP 5:** Switch roles and practice again.





- Bring Handouts L-11 and L-12 to class

- Review and use **C A R** strategies



- Questions?

